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NEWS AND NOTES

The first Mexican Scientific Congress will be held in the City of Mexico on December 9 to 14.

Mr. G. F. Gravatt has been appointed pathologist in charge of the chestnut canker investigations in Virginia, which will include first of all a survey of the state to locate the infected areas.

The proceedings of the Pennsylvania Chestnut Blight Conference, held at Harrisburg, February 20 and 21, 1912, have been recently printed in full in a very attractive and well illustrated volume of 253 pages.

Professor W. J. Wright, formerly of the department of horticulture of the Pennsylvania State College, has resigned to accept the directorship of the New York State School of Agriculture at Alfred University, Alfred, New York.

According to the observations of C. Wehmer (Ber. Deutsch. Bot. Gesell. 29: 704-708), oak wood is much more highly resistant than pine to the attacks of dry rot (*Merulius lacrymans*), although easily invaded by many other fungi.

An important illustrated paper on the fungous flora of arable soils, by Dr. C. N. Jensen, has recently appeared as Bulletin 315 of the Cornell University Agricultural Experiment Station. It contains a few new species and many interesting observations.

Mr. L. O. Overholts, of the department of botany of Miami University, Oxford, Ohio, was granted a research scholarship at the Garden during August and September. He devoted his attention to the completion of a list of the Polyporaceae of Ohio, with full keys to the genera and species.

Professor W. G. Stover, of the Oklahoma Agricultural Experiment Station, has been appointed assistant professor of botany in Ohio State University for the coming year. Mr. Stover is a graduate of Miami University and was at one time a student at the Garden.

Mr. P. J. Anderson, field pathologist of the Pennsylvania Chestnut Tree Blight Commission, and Professor H. W. Anderson, investigator for this Commission, visited the Garden August 14 to examine herbarium specimens and literature of fungi relating to the chestnut blight.

Bulletin 255 of the Bureau of Plant Industry at Washington, by Dr. E. F. Smith and Assistants, contains numerous illustrations showing the effects of crown gall on plant tissues, with a brief discussion of the disease and the results of investigations on the subject.

The entire herbarium of the late Professor Alfred James McClatchie, of Throop Polytechnic Institute, Pasadena, California, has recently been purchased by the New York Botanical Garden. It contains 1,835 specimens of fungi, many of which are valuable types.

Dr. F. D. Heald, formerly professor of botany in the University of Texas, is now an investigator under the Commission for the Investigation and Control of the Chestnut Tree Blight Disease in Pennsylvania, with his headquarters at the Zoology Building, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia.

Dr. A. F. Blakeslee has a year's leave of absence from the Connecticut Agricultural College. He has a temporary appointment on the staff of the Carnegie Station for Experimental Evolution at Cold Spring Harbor, Long Island, New York, where he will spend the year in research work on the lower fungi.

Dr. P. Baccarini has studied the effects of *Daedalea unicolor* on living trees of *Acer rubrum* in the botanical garden at Flor-

ence, and believes that the trees are gradually killed by this fungus, which causes a special decay of the wood, transforming it into a white, fibrous, very fragile mass.

Professor Bruce Fink, of Miami University, Oxford, Ohio, desires to see fresh material in abundance of species of the Collemaceae collected in various parts of North America. This group of lichens is greatly in need of careful modern taxonomic treatment and Professor Fink will devote much of his time to it during the next two years.

Bulletin 247 of the Bureau of Plant Industry at Washington is devoted to the discussion of a knot of citrus trees caused by *Sphaeropsis tumefaciens*, by Florence Hedges and L. S. Tenny. This disease, which has been known on lime- and orange-trees in Jamaica for several years past, has recently been reported from Florida. Careful pruning is recommended and great care is advised in order to prevent the spread in this country of a new citrus fruit disease.

In the Gardener's Chronicle for 1911, G. Webb describes a successful treatment of hollyhocks against attacks of the rust (*Puccinia malvacearum*) by the application of a powder which consists of 1 bu. of slaked lime, 1 bu. of soot, 4 lbs. of flowers of sulphur, and 2 oz. of finely powdered sulphate of copper. This mixture should be passed through a fine sieve and the plants dusted with the powder three or four times during the growing season, in the morning while the dew is still upon them.

The first number of a new journal bearing the name *Mycologisches Centralblatt* and devoted to general mycology appeared in February, 1912, edited by Dr. C. Wehmer in Hannover, and published by Gustav Fischer in Jena. The associate editors are: Blackman, Blakeslee (U. S.), Elfving, Erikson, Fischer, Giesenhagen, Klebahn, Lagerheim, Maire, Meyer, Molisch, Transchel, Tubeuf, Went, Zellner, and others. These names are sufficient to indicate the broad scope of the new journal.

The report of the state botanist, Dr. C. H. Peck, for the year 1911, containing 120 pages of text and 9 colored plates, appeared about August 15, 1912, as Bulletin 157 of the New York State Museum. The most important part of this report is probably a monographic treatment of the 64 New York species of the difficult genus *Clitocybe*. The 23 species of *Psilocybe* found in the state are also monographed; and 44 new species of fungi are described. Among the interesting observations recorded, is one regarding the death of two children from eating *Pholiota autumnalis*, and another giving measurements showing the average daily growth of the giant puffball, *Calvatia gigantea*, after its appearance above ground.

Species of Hydnaceae appear to be scarce on the Pacific Coast, as elsewhere. The following, determined by Professor H. J. Banker, deserve mention:

Auriscalpium Auriscalpium (L.) S. F. Gray. Abundant on cones under coniferous trees; rarely in humus. Corvallis, Oregon, *Murrill* 924, 984; Mill City, Oregon, *Murrill* 876.

Manina cordiformis Scop. (*Hydnum Erinaceus* Bull.) On a log of *Pseudotsuga*. When drying, it smells strongly of licorice. Seattle, Washington, *Murrill* 124.

Manina coralloides (Scop.) Banker. Several large, creamy-white clusters 25 cm. high and bearing teeth 1 cm. in length were found on an immense log of *Pseudotsuga*. Seattle, Washington, *Murrill* 121, 122.

Hydnum dichroum Pers. Growing at the base of a deciduous stump in fir woods. Corvallis, Oregon, *Murrill* 891.

Odontia fimbriata (Pers.) Fries. Common in some localities. According to Professor Banker, the subiculum is remarkably thick for the species. Corvallis, Oregon, *Murrill* 938; Preston's Ravine, near Palo Alto, California, *Murrill & Abrams* 1177, 1194.

Professor John G. Hall, of Clemson College, South Carolina, contributes the following note on the identity of the fungus causing the large leaf-spot of chestnut:

MONOCHAETIA DESMAZIERII.—“In MYCOLOGIA, vol. 4, no. 4,

Mr. A. H. Graves describes a large leaf-spot chestnut and attributes the disease to *Monochaetia Desmazierii* Sacc., giving *Quercus rubra* as another host. I have also found the disease upon *Quercus nigra* in abundance in this neighborhood. Mr. Graves says that Dr. Farlow examined the original material of *M. Desmazierii* and found that the spores were not mature but that later he examined other material sent out by Desmazières and found that this material agrees with the fungus upon the chestnut, and that it also agrees with Desmazières' description of the fungus. He also cites the fact that Dr. Stevens and myself mentioned a similar disease of chestnut in our 'Diseases of Economic Plants,' and suggests that they may be caused by the same organism.

"I have every reason to believe that the disease described by Mr. Graves is identical with that described by us and is caused by the same fungus. However, the identity of the fungus seems to be in doubt. According to the descriptions in Saccardo, the only authority available to us when 'Diseases of Economic Plants' was published, the fungus is *Monochaetia pachyspora* Bubak, as it has three dark-colored cells in the center of the spore, while *Pestalozzia monochaeta* Desm., which becomes *M. Desmazierii* Sacc., has only two such cells. At the end of the description of *M. pachyspora*, Saccardo says that the spores of this fungus are thicker than those of *M. Desmazierii*, while our measurements agree with those given for *M. pachyspora*. It seems to me that the name *M. pachyspora* should become a synonym of *M. Desmazierii* but that the description of the latter should be revised to correspond with the original specimen and description as written by Desmazières."

NEW COMBINATIONS FOR TROPICAL AGARICS

A number of species of gill-fungi described by me from tropical America in MYCOLOGIA, 1911-1912, under genera not found in Saccardo's *Sylloge*, are here recombined for the benefit of those having or using herbaria arranged according to this work. Collectors, pathologists, and others who may not be in-

timately acquainted with taxonomic methods will probably find it more convenient to follow the one system until a comprehensive revision is completed, at least for some important groups.

CONOCYBE ECHINOSPORA	= <i>Galera echinospora</i>
HYDROCYBE ALBO-UMBONATA	= <i>Hygrophorus albo-umbonatus</i>
HYDROCYBE AURANTIA	= <i>Hygrophorus aurantius</i>
HYDROCYBE EARLEI	= <i>Hygrophorus Earlei</i>
HYDROCYBE FLAVOLUTEA	= <i>Hygrophorus flavoluteus</i>
HYDROCYBE HONDURENSIS	= <i>Hygrophorus hondurensis</i>
HYDROCYBE ROSEA	= <i>Hygrophorus roseus</i>
HYDROCYBE SUBCAESPITOSA	= <i>Hygrophorus subcaespitosus</i>
HYDROCYBE SUBFLAVIDA	= <i>Hygrophorus subflavidus</i>
HYDROCYBE SUBMINIATA	= <i>Hygrophorus subminiatus</i>
HYDROCYBE TROYANA	= <i>Hygrophorus troyanus</i>
LEPTONIELLA ATROSQUAMOSA	= <i>Leptonia atosquamosa</i>
LEPTONIELLA CINCHONENSIS	= <i>Leptonia cinchonensis</i>
LEPTONIELLA EARLEI	= <i>Leptonia Earlei</i>
LEPTONIELLA MEXICANA	= <i>Leptonia mexicana</i>
LEUCOMYCES MEXICANUS	= <i>Amanita mexicana</i>
LEUCOMYCES MEXICANUS	= <i>Venenarius mexicanus</i>
LIMACELLA AGRICOLA	= <i>Lepiota agricola</i>
MELANOLEUCA JALAPENSIS	= <i>Tricholoma jalapensis</i>
MELANOLEUCA JAMAICENSIS	= <i>Tricholoma jamaicensis</i>
MELANOLEUCA SUBISABELLINA	= <i>Tricholoma subisabellina</i>
MYCENA JALAPENSIS	= <i>Bolbitius jalapensis</i>
MYCENA MEXICANA	= <i>Bolbitius mexicanus</i>
PLEUROPUS EARLEI	= <i>Clitopilus Earlei</i>
VENENARIUS MEXICANUS	= <i>Amanita mexicana</i>
VOLVARIOPSIS BAKERI	= <i>Volvaria Bakeri</i>
VOLVARIOPSIS CUBENSIS	= <i>Volvaria cubensis</i>
VOLVARIOPSIS EARLEI	= <i>Volvaria Earlei</i>
VOLVARIOPSIS JAMAICENSIS	= <i>Volvaria jamaicensis</i>

W. A. MURRILL.